

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING: The Blue Ridge Region Roanoke Office of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality will host a Steering Committee Meeting for the Roanoke River Watershed Clean-up Plan on Monday, April 20th, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. **Directions: From Route 220 North, Route 460 East or Interstate 581 North:** Take I-581 North to the second Peters Creek Road exit, number 2S. Go south on Peters Creek Road. After the second stoplight, turn left into Brammer Village. Go to the left in the parking lot and continue up the hill. DEQ is the third building (number 3019) on the right. Address is 3019 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, VA 24019. Parking for daytime meetings is available in the lot by the main entrance and on the opposite side of the building by the garages.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announces the final Steering Committee meeting to discuss the draft Clean-up Plan for the Roanoke River watershed. The working groups will focus on next steps including but not limited to: stakeholder roles and responsibilities, funding sources, technical assistance and tracking of best management practices.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies have been collaborating with local stakeholders to develop a clean-up plan with strategies for reducing levels of bacteria and sediment entering streams. The clean-up plan is designed to meet the bacteria and sediment reduction goals established by the following Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies: ***Bacteria TMDLs for Wilson Creek, Ore Branch and Roanoke River Watersheds, Virginia*** (available at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/roankrvr/uroanec.pdf>), the ***Benthic TMDL Development for the Roanoke River, Virginia*** (available at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/roankrvr/uroanbc.pdf>) and the ***Fecal Coliform Total Maximum Daily Load Development for Glade Creek, Tinker Creek, Carvin Creek, Laymantown Creek and Lick Run*** (available at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/roankrvr/tinkerfc.pdf>). The TMDL studies were completed in February 2006, February 2006 and March 2004, respectively. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

The following is the “impaired” stream, the length of the impaired segment, location and the reason for the impairment: Ore Branch, all, bacteria; Roanoke River, 29.56 miles, bacteria; Back Creek, 9.88 miles, bacteria; Mason Creek, 7.56 miles, bacteria; Mudlick Creek, 7.28 miles, bacteria; Murray Run, 3.22 miles, bacteria; Peters Creek, 7.14 miles, bacteria; Tinker Creek, 19.34 miles, bacteria; Carvin Creek, 5.36 miles, bacteria; Glade Creek, 12.59 miles, bacteria; Laymantown Creek, 2.07 miles, bacteria; Lick Run, 9.37 miles, bacteria; Roanoke River, 20.04 miles, sediment. These portions of the Roanoke River watershed are located in Bedford, Botetourt, Floyd, Franklin, Craig, Montgomery, and Roanoke counties, Roanoke City and Salem.

CONTACT: For additional information or to submit comments, contact Mary Dail in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Blue Ridge Regional Office by mail: 3019 Peters Creek Road, Roanoke, Virginia, 24019, by phone: 540.562.6715, or by email: mary.dail@deq.virginia.gov. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be postponed until 2:00 p.m. on April 27th, 2015. Additional information, materials from past meetings and the draft Roanoke River Watershed Clean-up Plan are available on the DEQ web site at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLImplementation/TMDLImplementationProgress.aspx>